



State of Indiana

Senate

Senator Lindel O. Hume
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Committees:
Ethics, R.M.M.
Agriculture & Small Business, R.M.M.
Environmental Affairs
Finance (Budget Subcommittee)
Rules & Legislative Procedure

August 4, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC Docket #: 03-167

Dear Ms. Dortch:

SBC Indiana recently applied, pursuant to the 1996 Telecommunications act, to your agency for permission to provide long distance service in Indiana. I'm writing to you now in support of that application. I strongly encourage you to approve it so Indiana consumers and businesses will see the same benefits of open telecommunications competition that customers in many other states already realize.

As an Indiana State Senator I am very familiar with the major issues in the telecommunications industry today. In recent years, I have been involved in several rounds of hearings and legislation on them. Many of these issues have taken far too long to resolve in an industry moving as quickly as this one. However, now that the process of review at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission is over, and the IURC has given preliminary support to the application, I'm pleased that the matter is finally before the FCC for final consideration.

You've already approved full and open competition for dozens of other states. Without question, the local phone market in this state is just as open and competitive. As other states have seen, SBC Indiana's entry into the long distance market will spur competition even further here. My constituents – consumers, businesses and other organizations in my district – want to see those increased benefits.

Thank you for considering my petition on behalf of SBC Indiana. I look forward to the FCC's final vote in October.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lindel O. Hume".

Lindel Hume
48th District State Senator

LH/rm